

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-07 INR-10 L-03 NEA-10

NSAE-00 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 USIA-15 TRSE-00

SAJ-01 SS-20 NSC-07 DRC-01 /109 W

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FM USMISSION NATO

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SECDEF

INFO AMEMBASSY LISBON

USNMR SHAPE

CINCLANT

USLOSACLANT

USCINCEUR

S E C R E T USNATO 1733

E.O. 11652: GDS, 12-31-82

TAGS: MCAP, NATO

SUBJ: MARCH 28 DRC EXAMINATION OF NATO FORCE PROPOSALS/GOALS-
PORTUGAL

REF: ANNEX 10 TP APPENDIX D TO ENCLOSURE 1 TO MCM-14-74,
"FORCE PROPOSALS 1975-1980".

SUMMARY. DRC ADDRESSED NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES' (NMAS)
1975-1980 FORCE PROPOSALS FOR PORTUGAL ON MARCH 28. DRC
MAINTAINED VIRTUALLY ALL FORCE PROPOSALS AS EITHER PORTUGUESE
NATIONAL CHALLENGES OR CANDIDATES FOR FOREIGN ASSISTANCE.
END SUMMARY.

1. CHAIRMAN HUMPHREYS INTRODUCED MAR 28 DRC CONSIDERATION
OF PORTUGUESE FORCE PROPOSALS BY STATING THAT ACCORDING TO
IS CALCULATIONS, PORTUGAL WOULD HAVE THE RESOURCES TO PAY FOR
ALL COSTED FORCE PROPOSALS (APPROXIMATELY ESC 3,270 MILLION)
PLUS A SUBSTANTIAL PORTION OF THOSE FOR WHICH PORTUGAL HAS
INDICATED A NECESSITY FOR FOREIGN AID. PORTUGUESE REP CITED
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ECONOMIC COSTS OF DEFENSE-ASSOCIATED RESPONSIBILITIES APART
FROM NATO AND UNCERTAINTIES ARISING FROM ENERGY CRISIS AS
REASONS FOR LESS OPTIMISTIC PERSPECTIVE. NEVERTHELESS, DRC
REJECTED SEVERAL PORTUGUESE ATTEMPTS DURING REVIEW OF

INDIVIDUAL PROPOSALS TO MAKE ACCEPTANCES CONTINGENT ON EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE.

2. DISCUSSION OF INDIVIDUAL LAND FORCE PROPOSALS CENTERED ON PROVISIONS OF ONE INFANTRY BRIGADE AS A CATEGORY A UNIT (SERIAL 1L05). PORTUGUESE REP ACCEPTED PROPOSAL SUBJECT TO COMPLETION OF ONGOING NATIONAL FEASIBILITY STUDY AND EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE FOR BRIGADE EQUIPMENT. FRG REP ASKED WHEY PLANNED BRIGADE WOULD BE AIR TRANSPORTABLE. PORTUGUESE REP IMPLIED DECISION WAS NATIONAL; SHAPE REP SAID SHAPE HAD NOT CALLED FOR AIR TRANSPORTABILITY. FRG REP ASKED WHO WOULD PROVIDE TRANSPORT AIRCRAFT DURING CRISIS. PORTUGUESE REP SAID HE ASSUMED IT WOULD BE US. DRC UPHELD FORCE PROPOSAL AS CHALLENGE TO PORTUGUESE RESOURCES BUT ASKED NATO MILITARY AUTHORITIES (NMA) TO CONSIDER WHETHER BRIGADE NEEDED TO BE AIR TRANSPORTABLE.

DRC UPHELD AS NATIONAL CHALLENGE PROPOSAL FOR ARMoured COMBAT VEHICLES TO EQUIP ONE BRIGADE (SERIAL 1L04) PENDING NMA EVALUATION OF AIR TRANSPORTABILITY QUESTION. SHAPE REP FAVORED LIGHT-WEIGHT ARMoured COMBAT VEHICLES IF BRIGADE IS AIR TRANSPORTABLE. DRC UPHELD AS NATIONAL CHALLENGES ALL REMAINING LAND FORCE PROPOSALS.

3. DRC MAINTAINED MARITIME FORCE PROPOSAL SERIALS 2M01, 2M03, 2M04, 2M06, 2M07/2M08 (FOR SHIPS), 2M09, AND 2M10 AS NATIONAL CHALLENGES. DRC MAINTAINED SERIAL 2M07/2M08 (FOR AIRCRAFT) AND REMAINING 4 FORCE PROPOSALS AS CANDIDATES FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE. FOLLOWING COMMENTS. PERTAIN:

A. PORTUGUESE REP OBJECTED TO EARMARKING ADDITIONAL ESCORTS AND SUBMARINES TO SACLANT (SERIAL 2M01) BECAUSE OF TRAINING REQUIREMENTS AND NATIONAL COMMITMENTS OUTSIDE IBERLANT AREA. FRG AND SACLANT REPS SAID SHIPS EARMARKED TO SACLANT IN LOWER READINESS CATEGORIES COULD BE DEPLOYED BY PORTUGAL OUTSIDE IBERLANT AREA. PORTUGUESE REP SAID HE WOULD SO INFORM HIS NATIONAL AUTHORITIES.

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B. PORTUGUESE REP SAID REQUEST FOR US ASSISTANCE IN REPLACING PRESENT SQUADRON OF 12 OBSOLETE MARITIME PATROL AIRCRAFT (SERIAL 2A02) HAD BEEN MADE TO US MAAG, LISBON, BUT NO AGREEMENT HAD BEEN CONCLUDED. IN UPHOLDING PROPOSAL AS CANDIDATE FOR EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE, DRC REDUCED MPA REPLACEMENT AIRCRAFT FROM TWELVE TO EIGHT WITH UNDERSTANDING THAT REMAINING FOUR AIRCRAFT WOULD BE CALLED FOR DURING NEXT FORCE PLANNING PERIOD.

C. CHAIRMAN ASKED WHETHER ANY EXISTING AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS COULD ACCOMPLISH DUAL MARITIME STRIKE AND AIR DEFENSE ROLES (SERIALS 2A05, AND 2A12). WHEN SEVERAL REPS EXPRESSED DOUBT, DRC UPHELD FORCE PROPOSALS AS CANDIDATES FOR EXTERNAL

ASSISTANCE PENDING SACLANT REVIEW OF PROPOSALS' FEASIBILITY.

D. PORTUGUESE REP SAID INSTALLATION OF SURFACE-TO-SURFACE
MISSILES ON ESCORTS (2M10) WAS BEYOND ECONOMIC RESOURCES.
DRC MAINTAINED PROPOSAL REVISED TO READ QUOTE START INSTALLA-
TION OF SURFACE-TO-SURFACE MISSILES IN THE LARGER ESCORTS
END QUOTE.

4. CHAIRMAN SAID DRC WOULD HAVE FURTHER OPPORTUNITY TO
REVIEW APPORTIONMENT OF PROPOSALS BETWEEN NATIONAL RESOURCE
AND EXTERNAL ASSISTANCE CATEGORIES AFTER IS CALCULATES COST
IMPACT OF MAR 28 DISCUSSION. RUMSFELD

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 11 JUN 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 29 MAR 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974ATO01733
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS, 12-31-82
Errors: n/a
Film Number: n/a
From: NATO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740381/abbryuay.tel
Line Count: 122
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: n/a
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: ANNEX 10 TP APPENDIX D TO ENCLOSURE 1 TO MCM-14-74, "FORCE PROPOSALS 1975-1980".
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11 APR 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <11 APR 2002 by ifshinsr>; APPROVED <30-Aug-2002 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MARCH 28 DRC EXAMINATION OF NATO FORCE PROPOSALS/GOALS- PORTUGAL
TAGS: MCAP, NATO
To: STATE
SECDEF INFO LISBON
USNMR SHAPE
CINCLANT
USLOSACLANT
USCINCEUR
Type: TE

Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005